

BRITISH CRUISER DAMAGED BY STORM — BOMBS WRECK GERMAN RAILWAY

London.—The cruiser Venus has been forced by a storm to take refuge in port, her foremast and part of her bridge being demolished, it was reported here today.

Berlin, via The Hague.—It is generally believed here that fighting in Poland has reached a critical stage, but reports today do not indicate any decisive advantage for either the German or Russian forces.

Paris.—The allies have further advanced their lines in Belgium and Northern France on the western end of their battle line and also in the Argonne.

The Hague.—Bombs dropped by French aviators at Freiburg, in the province of Baden, destroyed a portion of the railway.

Berlin, via Wireless to London.—Reports that a British aviator dropped bombs on the Krupp gun works at Essen are unfounded, it was stated here today.

Berlin, via Wireless to London.—The report that Germany has apologized to Portugal for any incident that may have occurred in Angola is declared here to be unfounded. Nothing is known of the matter in Berlin.

Lisbon.—Entire Portuguese cabinet today formally tendered resignation to government.

Paris.—From Flanders on the west to Alsace on the east sporadic thrusts are now being made at the German line through Belgium and across Northern France by the allied forces.

Despite the return of extremely bad weather in Flanders, the Germans are being given little rest that might enable them to gather strength for a final assault in an effort to reach Calais. The centre of the fighting in this region continues to be in the vicinity of Ypres. During the last few days a howling gale,

driving before it sleet and snow, has swept the fighting line.

The number of men from the French and British trenches now in the hospitals from illness is rapidly increasing but the Germans are suffering heavier losses from this cause. There is a veritable epidemic of disease in the German lines, it is declared.

Petrograd. — Desperate fighting still in progress in Poland. The Russian official statement issued today and covering operations of December 3 does not mention a victory at Lodz such as was claimed yesterday by the Bourse Gazette. The statement declares:

"On the left bank of the Vistula there was obstinate fighting on Dec. 3. Also along the Glogne-Lowicz front and on the western roads towards Lodz and Piotrkow.

"On the northern and southern fronts, the situation is unchanged."

Vienna, via Berlin and London.—Belgrade is now completely under the control of the Austrians. The official statement from the war office today says:

"The occupation of Belgrade took place yesterday with ceremony. Further advance into Northern Serbia was not opposed. We took 300 prisoners. To the west and southwest of the Arandjelo plain the Servians have made fierce attacks upon our troops."

Paris. — Petrograd message received here today declares reports that the Lodz battle has terminated in a brilliant victory for the Russians have been confirmed.

Constantinople, via Berlin and London.—Continued success is claimed in the operations against the Russians in an official statement issued here today.

Peoria, Ill.—Mrs. Ida Goebbels, 60, suicided. Despondent.